COLONIAL CURRENCY OF VIRGINIA
THE EMERGENCY ISSUES OF 1773 AND 1775
IMPORTANT LAND-MARKS OF AMERICAN HISTORY

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The issues of colonial currency of Virginia of March 1773 and July 1775 are interesting historic documents of a most important period of American history. There are two entirely different types of notes that were authorized by the special session of the Virginia Assembly, March 4, 1773, that was called to deal with the "counterfeit emergency"; and there are three entirely different types of notes that were authorized by the Virginia (Revolution) Convention of July 17, 1775, called to deal with the "defense emergency of 1775."

These two emissions are important milestones along our road to independence. The first represents the very last issue of paper currency of Virginia as a loyal colony and dominion of the British Crown and points up the disagreement between the good people of Virginia and their British king in his refusal to allow a private bank to operate in Virginia - a disagreement that was to be resolved only by revolution and independence. The latter represents the very first issue of paper currency of Virginia issued after the breakdown of British government there and the first money spent in the cause of American Independence in the Old Dominion.

Writers on the Colonial Currency of Virginia (1)(8)(7) have passed over these unusual issues in great haste, and no where in the Numismatic literature available to the average collector is there even a hint that there was more than one type of note issued for the abovementioned dates.

Raymond states that the issue of March 1773 is "rare and seldom obtainable" but makes no mention of there being two different types (8). Phillips lists the Type I notes of March 1773 after the Type II notes of the same date and under the date of April 1, 1773 (1), the date this type was first signed and put into circulation, not the date of their authorization (March 4, 1773). All other Virginia notes are listed under the date of authorization. Both Phillips and Hoober (who apparently uses Phillips' book as source material) fail to find any authority for this issue and neither of them noted any of the unique and unusual features of the notes. (1)(7).

With the July 1775 issue, writers on the subject ignore completely the two most interesting types - the money that made the Virginia victory at Great Bridge, our very first victory in the American Revolution, possible, and deal only with the comparatively colorless third type.(1)(7)(8).

Much can be gained from a study of the notes themselves, but more than this is necessary if we are to understand these particular issues and the reasons for the different types.

In Numismatics it is well to know something of the general character of the people who issued the currency or struck the coins in which you have become interested, for this knowledge will give you an insight into the ways and means of solving specific questions that arise.

With the eighteenth century Virginians, we are dealing with intelligent, self-reliant, practical men, men who had a good reason for most

of the things they did, orderly, law-respecting and law-abiding (at least as far as the laws they made for themselves were concerned) and generally speaking, they have left us carefully written, well expressed records of their doings if we just take the trouble to consult them.

In the field of Numismatics as in history, generalities must be qualified and sources cited if any contribution to these overlapping subjects is to enjoy contemporary respect or have any long range value (16).

In the case of these Virginia notes we are very fortunate, for not only do we have the records of the Virginia Assembly (2)(8) Vol., the Virginia Revolutionary Conventions (2)(9) Vol. and copies of most of the Virginia Gazettes for the 1773 - 1775 period (20), but we also have the letters of Robert Carter Nicholas (Treasurer of Virginia at the time concerned) to his London agent (who was also a close personal friend and trusted advisor) that shed considerable light on the subject. It was these letters (3) which first showed me how deficient the current Numismatic literature is concerning the notes issued by Virginia during this most important period of its history, and started me digging for the facts.

From the above source material we can obtain, first hand, the needed information to bring these issues and their various types into proper focus. It is none too soon - for in Richmond last November (1956) at the M.A.N.A.* Annual Convention, I saw the owner of a very impressive collection of Virginia paper money point out a Type I note of July 1775 and call it a note of the "first bank ever established in Virginia.**

* Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association.
** The first State chartered bank in Virginia was The Bank of Virginia and its Branches chartered by the Virginia Legislature in 1804. (Rev. Code, 1819, ch. 2, p. 67)

The 20s, £5 and £10 Type I notes of July 1775 now in my collection, were listed ~~listed~~ as "Broken Bank Notes"* by the cataloger of the New York auction of Adolph Menjou's Collection (Jan. 1957). Since 1953 (when I began looking) only twice have I seen the Type I notes of 1775 listed in auction or sales catalogs and both times they were listed as "Broken Bank Notes". Even the 'old heads' among the professionals seem to be unaware of these different types.

In 1773, on the advice of his Council, Governor Dunmore called a special meeting of the General Assembly when it was discovered that the last two issues of paper currency (1769 and 1771) had been extensively counterfeited and the counterfeiting too well done for warnings to the public to be of much help (3).

This special session of the General Assembly convened in the Capitol at Williamsburg on March 4, 1773, and after much discussion passed "An Act for Better Securing the Public Credit of this Colony" which consisted of several parts.

First, Robert Carter Nicholas, Treasurer of the Colony, was authorized to borrow enough money (£36,800)** at five per cent interest to call in and pay off all of the issues of 1769 and 1771, which had been so extensively counterfeited.

* Paper money of an insolvent State Bank. It is interesting to note that there were no "Broken Bank" notes of Virginia banks prior to the 1861-65 holocaust (21). This is indeed quite a record when compared with the numerous bank failures in the other states prior to 1861. The period 1800-1861 called the "Free-wheeling" state bank period when "Wild Cat" was a term used both for the banks and the paper money they issued.

** The amount given by R.C. Nicholas as needed to call in and pay off the balance of these two issues then in circulation (3) p. 305.

If unable to borrow the money, Nicholas was authorized to issue new notes for the notes of the counterfeited issues. Much discussion ensued on the means of making paper money counterfeit-proof and Treasurer Nicholas was authorized to communicate with the best brains and skills in the business in England, and secure notes for Virginia that would be as counterfeit-proof as possible.

Nicholas was unable to borrow any money at five percent either in the colonies or in England. The suggestions of employing the best papermakers, engravers etc., was fine for some future date but what to do about the present counterfeit emergency which was daily lowering the exchange rate between the pound, current money of Virginia, and the English pound sterling, and daily causing grief to numerous colonists victimized by the counterfeit notes, and for which the Royal Governor (Dunmore) had seen fit to call this special session of the General Assembly? The need was immediate and some 'stop-gap' solution was necessary while contrary winds took ships back and forth from Virginia to London for a more formal and permanent solution of the problem.

Robert Carter Nicholas, Treasurer of Virginia, was well-known for his honesty, he also graced his high office with the dignity of hard work and efficiency. Nicholas had located a supply of note forms already in Virginia that had been printed in England from a copper plate engraving on special water-marked paper.(14) In this respect, they were like the note forms the Bank of England used to stump counterfeiters and these forms also incorporated other ingenious anticounterfeit devices. By the use of parenthesis to exclude portions of the form that did not apply and

the addition of other words in longhand, Nicholas had found a satisfactory substitute, available immediately, for the notes (3) that were being counterfeited so successfully.

These forms were for the "Virginia James River Bank", a private bank that certain merchants, living along the James River, had hoped to open in Virginia (3). By so doing they had hoped to solve some of the difficulties of doing business in a country chronically short of specie. The merchants, however, were never able to get the necessary royal approval for a private bank, and it therefore never came into being. The forms had been printed after the bank promoters had gained the support of the leaders of the Virginia House of Burgesses, but before it became evident just how stubborn King George III could be regarding a private bank.

Nicholas was so favorably impressed with these Virginia James River Bank forms that he thought they would stump the most ingenious of counterfeiters. He made use of the clever devices that were incorporated in these notesforms plus the highest available skill of the engraver's art for the more appropriate notes which were authorized at the same time that the use of the Virginia James River Bank forms were authorized as a "stop-gap" procedure. Thus the reason for the two different types of notes of March 1773 was the use of the unused note forms that showed promise of stumping the counterfeiter and were on hand for use in the emergency while awaiting the more appropriate forms ordered from England.

Page 7 will have cut of Type I 1773.

8.

The above cut shows the bank note form, printed for a private bank that never came into being, converted into a promissory note in the name of the Treasurer of Virginia, by the use of parentheses to eliminate the inapplicable part of the printed form plus the necessary words added in longhand. This is explained in the following quotation from a letter of Treasurer Nicholas to Messers. John Norton and Sons, London, dated Williamsburg, Virginia, 30 July 1773. (3 p.342) "You'll observe from the sample of paper sent that it was peculiarly adopted to The James River Bank; I have thrown all the superfluous words into parenthesis, as a mark that they are not to be read, tho they may stand as so many checks in the bill."

This issue on the James River Bank note form, in 1773, is the only time Virginia ever issued promissory notes in the name of the Treasurer, but as Treasurer of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia and it is also the only issue that does not have the date of the Act of Assembly or Ordinance of Convention which authorized their issue printed or written on the face of the note.

Since all other issues of Colonial Currency of Virginia are listed according to the date of authorization, I can see no valid reason for making an exception in this case and listing this issue by the date the treasurer started signing them and first put them into circulation to replace the notes that had been so extensively counterfeited.

However, to do this we must search the Records of the Virginia Assembly to find the date of the Act which authorized this emergency issue of unique promissory notes. A detail that Phillips* and Hoober** overlooked.

We find in Hening's "STATUTES AT LARGE OF VIRGINIA" Vol. VIII that the emergency session to deal with the counterfeit emergency was . . . "CONVENED BY PROCLAMATION ON THE FOURTH DAY OF MARCH, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1773 BEING THE SECOND SESSION OF THE PRESENT GENERAL ASSEMBLY" and under the first part of AN ACT FOR THE BETTER SECURING THE PUBLIC CREDIT OF THE COLONY we read on page 648 ". . . AND IF THE SAID TREASURER SHALL NOT BE ABLE TO BORROW THE WHOLE, OR ANY PART OF THE SAID £ 36,834 WITHIN ONE MONTH AFTER PASSING THIS ACT, THE SAID TREASURER . . . SHALL AND HE IS HEREBY IMPOWERED AND REQUIRED TO ISSUE PROMISSORY NOTES IN HIS OWN NAME, BUT AS TREASURER OF THIS COLONY" (and this is exactly what the above note (Type I, March 1773) is - - "I, Robert Carter Nicholas, Esq., as Treasurer of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, promise to pay etc.," and this is the only case where paper money (Bills of Credit) of Virginia were issued as promissory notes in the name of the Treasurer but as

* Phillips: "An issue dated April 1, 1773 exists for which no law can be found." £ 1,3,5,8 and 12 notes known to exist."

** Hoober: "There are also known to exist £ 1, 3, 5, 8, & 12 notes of an issue dated April 1, 1773 for which no law can be found."

Treasurer of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia) "WHICH NOTES TO BE ISSUED, SHALL BE WRITTEN ON THE PAPER, OF WHICH A SAMPLE IS PRODUCED," (a check up on the dates that various types of notes arrived in Virginia will show that the specific sample that was produced could be only the form that had been printed for a private bank that never came into actual existence, but was responsible for having the Virginia James River Bank note forms printed, and before we see the last of these forms they will have rewarded their makers with a large measure of poetic justice.) "SIGNED BY THE SAID TREASURER, COUNTERSIGNED BY PEYTON RANDOLPH AND JOHN BLAIR, ESQUIRE" (This first use of the Virginia James River Bank note forms are the only notes of 1773 that are signed by Robert Carter Nicholas or countersigned by Peyton Randolph and John Blair) " AND NUMBERED BY JAMES HOBARD AND PETER PELHAM, GENTLEMEN," (No previous Act of Assembly specified who was to number the notes as this was the first issue of eighteenth century Virginia currency that carried a double number. These James River Bank note forms were bound in books of one hundred (20, append. 1) the top number of the note referred to the book from which the note came, and the bottom number was the serial number of the note e.g. see above note No. 58/5776 - this number meant that this note came from book No. 58 and its serial number was 5776. It was separated from its stub No. 5776 in book 58 by means of an irregular wavy cut so that only the original note would fit its stub, so that not only did the contours of the cut edges fit perfectly but the 'fancy grill-work' of note and stub also lined up perfectly. To make workable the use of this anticounterfeit device required the writing of four numbers - two on note and two on stub, (however, it would have been necessary to

enter only the serial number on stub, as all notes in any particular book had the same top or book number). As this was the first issue with a numbering system entailing three to four times as much work as previous issues, the Act names specific men to number these notes and specifies the amount they were to receive for their labor. "AND SHALL BE MADE PAYABLE ON OR BEFORE THE TENTH DAY OF DECEMBER 1775" (This is exactly as it appears on the notes) "AND THE SAID TREASURER SHALL MOREOVER CAUSE SUCH DEVICE OR DEVICES TO BE IMPRESSED ON THE BACKS OF THE SAID NOTES AS HE SHALL JUDGE MOST LIKELY TO SECURE THE SAME AGAINST COUNTERFEITS AND FORGERIES." (The ornamented protective design and legend that included the denomination and the "Death to Counterfeit" warning were printed on the backs of these James River Bank forms in Williamsburg, by a local printer, in accordance with the latter part of the above Act. When the note forms were used in 1775 their backs were left plain.)

Thus, only these promissory notes on the Virginia James River Bank forms conform to all of the above provisions of the Act of Assembly, even though the Act does not mention the James River Bank forms by name. There can be no doubt that the above Act refers to this first issue of the Virginia James River Bank forms by the Colony and Dominion of Virginia. Then too, since it is the custom to date an Act of Assembly, etc., that has to do with issues of paper money, on the date the Assembly (or Convention) was convened, it therefore follows, the date that these first notes of Colonial Virginia to use the Virginia James River Bank forms should be listed under is March 4, 1773, their date of authorization, even though this date does not appear on the notes.

Since the same Act that authorized their issue also authorized another issue of paper money, it is necessary to distinguish between them. As these were the first authorized, the first actually to be put into circulation, and since the latter issue of 1773 copied its anticounterfeit devices including its double numbering system etc., this first issue on the Virginia James River Bank forms should be called the Type I notes of March 4, 1773. And the notes ordered through Norton and Sons by Robert Carter Nicholas according to the latter part of the Act of Assembly passed the same March 4, 1773, should be called the Type II notes of March 4, 1773, but no where else in the literature is such a simple classification of these two note forms made.

With the pressure somewhat relieved by the use of the Virginia James River Bank forms as a "stopgap" for the counterfeit emergency, Robert Carter Nicholas ordered through his agent, Mr. John Norton of Norton and Sons, London, the forms used for the Type II notes of 1773 (and 1775).

"I am directed to import some of the very best paper that can be procured for the future emission", he wrote Mr. Norton, 17 March 1773 (3, p.306) and the letter continues, "It is wished that we cou'd have some such paper as is used at the Bank (of England) made on purpose." *

* To combat counterfeiting, the Bank of England developed 1695-1697 a sort of paper peculiar to the bank with the special water-mark which thenceforth was to be an outstanding feature of all Bank of England notes. (Mackenzie's "The Bank of England Note" p. 8)

"Mr. James Ingram of Norfolk and the Rev'd Mr. Henley have recommended each a sample which I enclose you." After giving all the details of the enclosed samples, Mr. Nicholas continues, "I do not mean by sending those samples to restrain you to one or the other of them, but rather wish you to consult the most skilful men in London and that you would be guided by them." Mr. Norton did just this, for he engaged the services of Harry Ashby of Ashby and Company, London - the most important of the specialists in banknote production, at the time. **

The notes, elaborately engraved by Ashby of London, arrived in Virginia in September 1773 (3)(4), so the brunt of the counterfeit emergency (Mar. to Sept.) had to be borne by the Virginia James River Bank forms. However, when the London made note forms did arrive, they were signed, numbered, endorsed and put into circulation to replace all previous issues of Virginia notes including those issued on the Virginia James River Bank forms, according to the authority of the same March 4, 1773 Act of Assembly.

** Of the many London specialists in banknote production, the most important was Harry Ashby, who, earlier in the field that any of them, had set up as Ashby and Company to become the leading banknote printer of the time (second half of eighteenth century) producing notes for a great number of County Banks (in England) and later for foreign and colonial governments and banks. (Mackenzie's "The Bank of England Note" page 29.)

ILLUSTRATION OF £3 POUND NOTE

TYPE II NOTE OF 1773

We may see Mr. Ashby's -'Ashby Sculp - London' engraver's mark on all the Type II notes of 1773 (and 1775) in a slightly different form for each of the four separate denominations; namely - 20s, £2, £3, and £5 notes.

Above is shown the different ways in which the engraver's marks appear on the four different denominations of the Type II note forms issued first in 1773 and again in 1775, and these engraver's marks identify the notes as the Type II variety of the abovementioned years. From authoritative sources, I have neither heard of nor been able to find any other denominations of these 'Ashby' notes, either the Type II of 1773 or Type II of 1775, and must conclude that only these four denominations were issued.

Under Part II * of "AN ACT FOR BETTER SECURING THE PUBLIC CREDIT OF THIS COLONY" (special session convened by proclamation March 4, 1773) " . . . THE SAID TREASURER (NICHOLAS) SHALL AND HE IS HEREBY INCOURAGED TO ISSUE OTHER TREASURY NOTES TO REDEEM SUCH OF THE NOTES, TO BE ISSUED BY VIRTURE OF THIS ACT (The Type I notes) AS THEN REMAINS IN CIRCULATION WHICH LAST NOTES, TO BE ISSUED AS THE CASE MAY REQUIRE, SHALL BE INPRINTED ON THE MOST PROPER PAPER THAT CAN, IN THE MEANTIME, BE PROCURED BY HIM FROM GT. BRIT., IN SUCH MANNER AS HE SHALL JUDGE MOST LIKELY TO SECURE THE SAID NOTES FROM COUNTERFEITS AND FORGERIES** AND THE SAME SHALL BE SIGNED BY PEYTON RANDOLPH AND JOHN BLAIR."

* Hening's "Statutes At Large" Vol. VIII.

** Such statements show the high regard and confidence that the current Members of the Virginia General Assembly had for their Treasurer, Mr. Robert Carter Nicholas.

(Most of these Type II notes of 1773 have this pair of signatures, but some are also signed by John Blair and B. Dandridge) "NUMBERED BY JAMES HUBARD AND PETER PELHAM, GENTLEMEN, AND ENDORSED BY THE TREASURER." (These Type II notes of 1773 are the first Virginia notes to be endorsed on the back and in this case by Robert Carter Nicholas.) "FOR THE TIME BEING TO SUCH PERSON OR PERSONS AS SHALL BE WILLING TO RECEIVE THE SAME IN LIEU OF THE OTHER NOTES, FOR WHICH THEY ARE INTENDED TO BE EXCHANGED, AND THE SAID LAST MENTIONED NOTES, WHEN ISSUED, SHALL BE CURRENT IN LIKE MANNER AS THE NOTES FIRST DIRECTED TO BE ISSUED."

The above can only refer to the Type II notes of 1773 of which a £3 note is pictured above.

The Act futher states that counterfeiting "SHALL BE ADJUDGED A FELON AND SUFFER DEATH WITHOUT BENEFIT OF CLERGY."* The same Act also extended, for the first time, the same penalty for counterfeiting the paper money of the other British Colonies in North America, but this latter provision was limited to a period of "FIVE YEARS AND NO LONGER." (2,a)

* In England, 'Benefit of Clergy', by which clerks in Holy Orders were exempted from capital punishment, had been extended in 1350 to anyone who could read or write and was not abolished until 1827. (14 p.14) Among the earliest enactments of the first U.S. Congress (1790) was an Act forbidding 'Benefit of Clergy', which had previously been recognized in Virginia and other states because it was a part of English Common Law. Thus 'without Benefit of Clergy' would appear to have been very necessary for it seems unlikely that any person capable of counterfeiting would be unable to read and write.

These large size (6 1/2 x 4 3/4) exceborately engraved notes prepared by Ashby of London, like the Type I notes (James River Bank forms), were printed from skillfully engraved copper plates and printed on a copper plate press, on "watermarked paper", the procedure used by the Bank of England for its notes since 1697, but never before used for any of the Virginia notes. *

* All earlier Virginia notes had been printed from (1) printer's type, (2) printer's ornaments and (3) type-metal plates. These type-metal plates were made from clay or plaster casts of designs engraved on brass or silver. For each note there were five of these type-metal plates used - four for the border and one for the Colonial Arms of Virginia. They were attached to the printing block with nails. In the case of the long narrow border strips, by a nail at each end, and the almost square plate for the Arms, by a nail at each of its four corners. The heads of these nails are easily seen in many of the early notes. The remaining space within the borders, except that left blank for the number of the note and the signatures of one or two well known Virginians, as the case called for, was filled with the essential facts spelled out in printer's type and made fancy with printer's ornaments. Apparently working on the theory that if they used enough different varieties of the latter that the counterfeiters would be stumped. These early notes were printed on the regular printing presses of the period and were considerably easier to counterfeit than those printed from engraved copper plates on a copper plate press. It is interesting to note here that recent excavations (Summer 1956) at the site of the ancient printing office, Colonial Williamsburg, Va., uncovered two of these type-metal plates - one for the Colonial Arms of Virginia and the other was one of the four border strips. After expert examination and comparison it was concluded that the type-metal plate of the Arms of Colonial Virginia was cast from a mold of the same die as the type-metal plates used to print the issues of 1750. In like fashion, the border strip was cast from a mold of the same die as the type-metal plate used for the right hand border of the one shilling note of Oct. 12, 1750 and signed by Edmund Pendleton. According to the most complete list of 18th century Virginia notes, currently available, the one given by Henry Phillips, Jr., in "Historical Sketches of the Paper Currency of the American Colonies", no one shilling note is listed for this date. However, Colonial Williamsburg was able to find one in that fabulous collection of Early Virginia Notes of Mr. C. C. Boyd of East Orange, N.J. Issues of this date are the only ones now known to have t their year of issue as part of the border decoration. (17)
No matter where you start with a problem concerning the Colonial Currency of Virginia the road will lead, sooner or later, to Mr. Boyd, a delightful collector of the 'old school'. I was quite impressed by the number of different roads that led to him in my case.

Illustration of

COPPER PLATE PRESS

from

The Bank of England Note

by

A. D. Mackenzie

It is doubtful if any piece of machinery has changed less than this form of Press which was invented in 1545, very early in the history of engraving, and which exists in the same form today, it is still used for pulling proofs and small editions of engravings and etchings as it was in the seventeenth century when the first Bank of England notes were printed upon it. (14) The Press itself, is a simple affair in which a "flat bed" is made to slide horizontally between two cylinders - the top cylinder is adjustable so as to secure the correct pressure, and terminates at one end in 'the cross', a capstan-like fitting by which the cylinder may be rotated and causing the 'flat bed' to pass between the two cylinders. The engraved plate, previously warmed in order that the ink may be kept in a semi-fluid state, is inked, wiped, and finally polished by the palm of the pressman's hand, which has been lightly dusted with whitening. The plate, which is then free from ink except in the engraved lines, is laid upon the bed of the press with the paper, previously dampened, upon it, covered with a

thick blanket and rolled beneath the pressure of the top cylinder. By this method an impression is produced on the paper that has liveliness and depth in the finished work in direct proportion to the skill with which the copper plate was engraved, and that is not possible with any other method of printing AT THE TIME. In order for a counterfeiter to produce a successful counterfeit of such notes, even if he had the equipment, he would have to possess even more skill in engraving copper plates than the original professional engraver, and if he possessed such skill he would be foolish not to use it in making an honest living, rather than stooping to "make his own money". Such, however, was not always the case, but the use of the skillfully engraved copper plate and its press did make successful counterfeiting considerably more difficult and put most of the 'hacks' out of business. The process of printing notes on the copper plate press was a slow one and the turning of the 'cross' demanded considerable exertion, so that the pressman had to be not only skillful but also physically strong in order to stand the strain of a day's work. (14)

Now to go back to the special session of the General Assembly called to deal with the counterfeit emergency. On March 10, 1773, the Burgesses were examining evidence on the apprehension and conviction of some counterfeiters and found that the Royal Governor (Dunmore) had tried the notorious counterfeiters from Pittsylvania County in Williamsburg when they should have been tried in Pittsylvania County, the county where the criminal acts were committed and where the arrests were made.

!Trial at distant points! was a grievance against which the Burgesses had complained to the King and they did not want to be guilty of the same offense, even when the crime was counterfeiting.* Therefore, they appointed a committee including Edmund Pendleton[1], Robert Carter Nicholas[2], Patrick Henry and Bartholomew Dandridge[3], to thank the Governor "..for his zeal and to beg of him that he refrain from making a precedent of the case."**

Once in session, the Burgesses did not limit themselves to the special subject of counterfeiting for which it was called. After considering certain Indian matters and several land bills, the House turned its attention to relations with the Home Government and appointed a 'Committee of Correspondence' from among its members.

* Thus while meeting to try to find a solution to a serious economic problem arising from a law violation - counterfeiting - the Burgesses were careful not to violate the law themselves or to approve of such even when done by the Royal Governor. Such was characteristic of this great school of practical self-government - The Virginia House of Burgesses and in spite of their desire to continue to govern themselves or their love of freedom, these men had a profound regard and respect for the law.

(1) Signature appears on some of the earlier notes.
(2 & 3) Signatures appear on the 1773 notes.

** Life and Times of Edmund Pendleton, R.L. Hilldrup, Chapel Hill, 1939.

This committee was to keep the Burgesses informed of any act or proceeding of the English Government that concerned America and to maintain communications with the other colonies. This action has been described as giving a 'central nervous system' to the colonies. In fact, this committee was the first successful step toward uniting the separate colonies and was the most significant advance of the revolutionary movement since the Resolutions against the Stamp Act in 1765. From this seed grew all the organized resistance to British tyranny that eventually flowered into the Declaration of Independence and armed resistance under the leadership of George Washington.

Thus while this General Assembly authorized the last issue of paper money for Virginia as a loyal Colony and Dominion of the British Crown, the same House of Burgesses of the same General Assembly set in motion a 'chain reaction' to British despotism that severed all loyalty and union with that government. The Type I and Type II notes of March 1773 are important momentoes of both milestones, as well as a successful practical solution for a counterfeit emergency. For the records show that these notes were among the very few colonial notes that were never successfully counterfeited.* "While counterfeiting in Virginia neither began nor ended with the incidents of 1773, it certainly reached its height at that period and the counterfeiter has unwittingly left his mark on the story of Independence in Virginia." **

* This also holds for these two note forms when used again in 1775.

** The Counterfeiter and Virginia Independence, R. W. Church in Virginia Cavalcade, Vol.I No. I.

Following this special session of the Assembly, the pace of the revolutionary movement quickened and its effects were demonstrated in the public's reaction to Gov. Dunmore's theft of its powder, April 20, 1775 from the Magazine in Williamsburg. Although the Governor made full payment in money for the powder, he was keenly aware of his loss of control of his King's subjects in Virginia, and began to feel insecure regarding his physical safety and that of his family in Williamsburg.

This feeling of insecurity increased with the passing days and in the early morning of June 2, 1775, under the cover of darkness, he left his palace in Williamsburg and with his family took refuge on a British Man-of-War anchored in the York River. With the departure of Virginia's last Royal Governor from Williamsburg came the breakdown of British Government in Virginia.

A vain nobleman was Virginia's last Royal Governor, John Murray, Earl of Dunmore, by name, and motivated by vengeance for the humiliations, both real and imaginary, he had suffered as the King's representative in Virginia. He committed the one act guaranteed to lose the support he still had among the conservative planter class of Virginia. He proclaimed the Negro slaves free and tried to incite them to insurrection. (19 p.230) He then followed up on his threats with action, armed the several hundred runaway slaves that reached his lines and with loyalists and British regulars pillaged the unprotected tidewater area of Virginia.

Dunmore, in the fall of 1775, accomplished for American Independence what all the speeches of Patrick Henry and all the writings of Thomas Jefferson had failed to do.

His eighteenth century version of Lincoln's more restrictive but better known 'Emancipation Proclamation'* and his undeclared war on the exposed and accessible areas of Virginia, broke the back of the old guard resistance to the secession movement. "If Dunmore represented monarchy, they would take their chances with revolution." (19 p.231) Thus it was Dunmore's 'piratical and savage' war - his campaign of vengeance - that constituted the emergency for which the Convention of July 17, 1775 was called.

* Emancipation Proclamation which freed no slaves in that part of North America controlled by the Lincoln government either in the states that had elected to remain in the Union or the areas of Virginia and Louisiana conquered and controlled by Union Armies. At the time of the Proclamation the only slaves freed by Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation were in the areas controlled and defended by the Confederate States of America and where Lincoln had no authority by the time.

This was the third of the so-called Virginia Revolutionary Conventions* and the first of them to authorize an issue of paper money. This money was also the first to be issued by Virginia after the ties with the British Government had been broken by the action of their last Royal Governor (Dunmore) and Virginia was on her own.

*
There were five Virginia Conventions in all, held between Aug. 1774 and July 1776. These conventions and the 'Committee of Safety' that was elected by the Convention from its members constituted Virginia Government during the "interregnum" that period between the end of British rule and the start of the Commonwealth of Virginia on July 5, 1776, with Patrick Henry its first Governor. It was these Conventions that decided on the men who would represent Virginia in the Continental Congress and completed the transition of Virginia from Colony to Commonwealth. It was the first organized official body to request a declaration of independence of the Continental Congress. This request, the words of Edmund Pendleton, written in the hand of John Tazewell, clerk of the Convention, and ratified by the Convention May 15, 1776 is a great American document and deserves to be read in conjunction with Jefferson's 'Immortal Declaration', for the former document has the same relationship to the latter as cause and effect, and is written in the same basic logic - its solemn words like the more familiar document it caused, is the essence of Americanism and an important foundation stone of the government "our forefathers brought forth on this continent." This resolution was enough to make the Convention immortal for all lovers of American freedom, but it did not stop in just requesting justifiable action on the part of the Continental Congress, it also requested of itself a "Bill of Rights" and "A Plan of Government as will be most likely to maintain peace and order in this Colony, and secure substantial and equal liberty to the people." (Va. Resolution for Indep. May 15, 1776). It was upon this tripod - the Virginia Bill of Rights, (approved June 12, 1776) the Virginia Constitution of 1776 (approved June 29,) and the Declaration of Independence (approved by Continental Congress July 4, 1776) that our government was erected. Every incident and event which has secured such happy results as the United States of America is worthy of not only being recorded and remembered but cherished. While there is only one original of these great bulwalks of American freedom and beyond hope of ownership by an individual, there are authentic "Bills of Credit" authorized by these same Conventions, working under the same trying conditions and bearing authentic signatures of important founding fathers that can be owned by individuals. The notes of these Conventions deserve a higher place in history and the teaching of history than is currently accorded them. Especially in the teaching of history, money of the period studied can produce a realism hard to acquire in any other way. For example, when the delegates assembled in Williamsburg on May 6, 1776 "after one of the most colorful and exciting elections in the history of Virginia" (Pendleton, p.157) it was money that had the number one spot on the agenda and three of the most important documents in American History had to wait to come into being until the Convention decided what it was to use as money.

It is interesting to note that the last emergency meeting of the representatives of the people of Virginia, elected at the local level, that authorized an issue of paper money, had been called by Dunmore, then Royal Governor of Virginia. The next emergency meeting of these same representatives was called, not by Dunmore, but to suppress Dunmore and his organized forces in their acts of violence and piracy against the people he had been sent to protect and govern.

There had been no issues of paper money or bills of credit between these two emergency meetings, but there was an event of great numismatic importance that must at least be mentioned here, though it has been adequately covered elsewhere. From London, on February 14, 1774, the Norton ship "Virginia" arrived in the York river with five tons of Virginia copper half-pennies on board. These coins are dated 1773 and are the only coins that ever materialized for Virginia. They also enjoy "the unique distinction of being the only fully authorized coins with legal tender status which were specifically minted for all or any part of the English colonies which became the United States of America." (Coinage for Colonial Virginia by Eric P. Neuman, p.1.) *

*While there is much current misinformation circulated regarding these Virginia half-pennies, chiefly as a result of current writers using Sylvester S. Crosby's "The Early Coins of America" (Boston 1875) as their source material. Mr. Crosby's book is the accepted standard text for early American coins and generally speaking is quite reliable, but for the Virginia half-pennies he, along with most writers of his period, completely "missed the boat" in this specific instance. His description of the physical appearance of the Virginia half-penny is the only correct thing he has to say about the coin. However, the correct information on the Virginia half-penny is readily available in Charles T. Tatman's "The Virginia Coinage" reprinted in The Numismatist, Vol. XXIV (1911) p.233, and the more recent excellent monograph "Coinage for Colonial Virginia" by Eric P. Neuman - Numismatic Notes and Monographs No. 135 (1956) published by the American Numismatic Society, New York City. For all who are interested in this unique early American coin I recommend, without any reservations, that they read Mr. Neuman's excellent monograph.

The Virginia Convention of July 17,1775 met in Richmond, Virginia. Peyton Randolph was elected President of this Convention, as he had been for the first two, having resigned as President of the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, to be on hand for this important meeting in the Old Dominion. Edmund Pendleton was elected chairman of a 'Committee of Safety' that consisted of ten other well known Burgesses. The function of this committee was:

1. To prevent the breakdown of law and order now that there was no authorized Royal British authority in Virginia.

2. To put an end to the wanton destruction of life and property that Virginia's last Royal Governor was currently visiting upon the unprotected tidewater area with his fleet of British warships, British regulars, loyalists (tory) supporters and armed Negro slaves.

3. Longer range military preparations for Virginia, including the establishment and operation of a "Manufactory of Arms" at Fredricksburg, Virginia "...for providing arms and ammunition" for Virginia. (Hening Vol IX, p. 71.)

How the above was to be accomplished brought the Convention to its number one problem. What was it to use for money? Sooner or later all other problems had to be taken care of financially so until this number one problem of all nascent governments was reduced to some workable form there could little or no real progress.

This third Virginia Revolutionary Convention sought to solve this problem by the issuing of paper money - Bills of Credit - against future taxes levied on the people of Virginia. * It then authorized the Treasurer (Robert Carter Nicholas) to issue Treasury Notes not to exceed the sum of £350,000 (largest single issue to date for Virginia). As the need for this money was immediate and the printing of any notes requiring new plates would take several months, the Convention passed an ordinance allowing the Treasurer to use the two note forms which he had on hand - the Type I and Type II note forms of 1773, and it follows that these two different forms or types should keep the same type designation when used again in 1775 as they had in 1773.

Apparently there were not enough of either the Type I or Type II note forms, on hand, to take care of Virginia's current defense emergency, but by using both types of note forms there would be enough forms to take care of the current pressing need of Virginia for money until more appropriate note forms became available, the note form that would become the Type III notes of 1775, these were ordered from Philadelphia after July 17, 1775, according to the same 'Ordinance of Convention', with the name of the Convention printed on them.

* It was to help finance Virginia's part in the French and Indian War that brought forth Virginia's first issue of paper money (Bills of Credit) May 1755. Virginia was the last of the thirteen original colonies to make use of this form of credit. The act authorizing the issue was prefaced, "The people of Virginia will think no burden too grievous that shall be found necessary for the preservation of that which is so valuable and dear to them, their civil and religious liberty." (22 p.34) . And this was being threatened by the French advance in the Ohio River valley.

Thus, the three different types of notes for the defense emergency authorized by the Virginia Convention of July 17, 1775 were the use of the forms on hand, (Type I and Type II note forms that were used in 1773, inappropriate though they were, to take care of the immediate emergency needs while awaiting the delivery of proper forms printed) especially for this 1775 issue with the name of the convention printed on them (Type III).

The copper plates that were used in London to print the Type I and Type II notes of 1773 were in Virginia in 1773 and may be presumed to still be there two years later.* However, had new note forms been printed in Virginia from those copper plates, for the emergency phase of this issue, it seems to the writer that they would have printed enough of one type rather than some of both types, especially so for denominations common to both types, and with a choice, it would also seem that the type II (Ashby) notes would have been printed for use. While neither type was suitable for the current "Ordinance of Convention", the Type II (Ashby) notes were less unsuitable than the Type I (Virginia James River Bank) notes.

There appears to be some question too, as to whether a copper plate press was available in Virginia, at the time. When I first started work on the 1773-1775 issues in 1956, the research department of Colonial Williamsburg was of the opinion that there was no copper plate press in Williamsburg, the logical place for a copper plate press if one was to be

* The copper plate engraved by Ashby for £5 that printed the Type II notes of 1773 and 1775 for £3 is still in Virginia and is preserved for posterity at the museum of the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, Virginia, where it may be seen by all interested parties. It was presented to the So Society in 1933, by Dr. Norborne Norton, a descendent of both Robert Carter Nicholas and John Norton (names that have appeared frequently in this paper) and is among the earliest Museum accessions still held by the Society.

found in Virginia in 1775. Now in 1958 there seems to be an element of doubt. However, the evidence appears to favor the use of unused 1773 forms for the first two 1775 types rather than the printing of new note forms from the engraved copper plates even if the means of doing so was available to them. (Though we can not be sure at this time that it was or was not.)

Another point in favor of this supposition is that the Type I notes of 1775 are on the same kind of "watermarked" paper as the Type I notes of 1773, and the same holds for the Type II notes of 1775 and 1773. The writer has been unable to find any mention of any blank "watermarked" paper being acquired by Treasurer Nicholas. Such watermarked paper was not made in the colonies, at the time, and it would have to have been imported from England, and in that case would have been ordered through Norton and Sons, London by Mr. Nicholas. We have what appears to be a complete set of Mr. Nicholas' letters to Messrs. John Norton and Sons, for the 1773-1775 period, and there is no mention of any request for blank "watermarked" paper or even any suggestion that Mr. Nicholas intended using the engraved copper plates to print additional forms.

In a letter of Nicholas' to Messrs. John Norton and Sons, London, written from Williamsburg 17 March 1773, he requests that the engraved copper plates be sent along with the note forms apparently for good public relations in matters of security rather than to make use of the plates for additional note forms; for he writes,"... not that I shall entertain any doubt of the integrity of the person you may think fit to employ, but for the satisfaction of the public." This, however, pertained only to the plates engraved by Ashby (Type II), the plates for the Virginia James River Bank forms were apparently already in Virginia, at the time,

for it was current practice to deliver the engraver's copper plates with the paper forms printed from said plates. As noted above, the bank form is identical for the Type I notes of 1773 and the Type I notes of 1775, except that the latter ones have plain backs, no local printing added on the back this second time they were used. However, the conversion of the note forms is quite different.

As was noted under the 1773 issue, by the use of parenthesis to exclude inappropriate parts of the form and the addition of proper words in longhand, those bank forms were converted into "Promissory Notes" issued in the name of Robert Carter Nicholas, Treasurer of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia.

But when those same forms were used again in 1775, no attempt was made to exclude any part of the bank form by the use of parenthesis, but the only part of the printed form that now had meaning was "_____Pounds Currency" on the left; "Pounds _____" on the right, "No _____" the top right and "17____" at lower right. See the following note.

ILLUSTRATION —

TYPE I NOTE OF 1775

The remainder of the printed form is without meaning, "the it may stand as so many checks in the bill" (3). The fact that the people of Virginia were already familiar with the use of this bank form, by Virginia under emergency conditions, possibly allowed the treasurer a little more leeway, this time, and the essential part of the note was merely written in on the form with pen and ink - the "Ordinance of Convention" specifying who was to "fill up" said notes. (2,b.) The above (Type I) form was to be read:

"No. $\frac{-402}{10129}$ £12 Curr. Money of Virginia, pursuant to an Ordinance of Convention passed the 17th. of July 1775"

Countersigned	and	Dated	Sept. 1, 1775
B. Dandridge		Signed	Robert Carter Nicholas,
Wm. Nervell			Treas.

"12 Pounds Currency" at the left end "Pounds Twelve" at the right end - - omitting all the rest. Unlike the 1773 issue on this bank form the 1775 issue includes its date of authorization. *.

The Type II notes of July 1775 as also mentioned above were on identical forms as the Type II notes of March 1773, these were the forms printed from the copper plates engraved by Ashby of London.

All previous issues of paper money of Virginia (before July 1775) had been authorized by "An Act of the Assembly" of a loyal Colony and Dominion of the British Crown. This issue was the first to be authorized by "An Ordinance of Convention" of an independent Virginia. So on these "Ashby" forms we see "Act of Assembly" excluded by the use of parenthesis and "An Ordinance of Convention" written in with pen and ink.

*The omission of the date of authorization on the 1773 Virginia notes on the Virginia James River Bank forms was the principal cause for the confusion now current regarding these notes and which I hope this paper will correct.

Further in in the note form "and by appointment of said Assembly" the "Assembly" is again excluded by the use of parenthesis and "Convention" written in longhand above.

I L L U S T R A T I O N

THREE POUND NOTE JULY 17, 1775

T Y P E II

When this issue was authorized, notes with the name of the Convention printed on them were also authorized and were ordered from a printer in Philadelphia (5). But like the counterfeit emergency the current defense emergency was already upon them and the need for the authorized money was immediate. The Convention thus authorized the use of the two note forms that had been used in 1773 and were on hand until the more appropriate forms could be obtained.

JULY 1775 INTERREGNUM

" The Statutes at Large" - Hening
Vol. IX p. 68.

Part in - ALL CAPITOLS - is an exact copy of significent parts of the Ordinance of Convention wherein the Treasurer, Robert Carter Nicholas, was authorized to issue treasury notes for the several purposes connected with securing adequate defense of the colony and "NOT EXCEEDING IN THE WHOLE £350,000."

".....THAT ALL THE NOTES NECESSARY TO BE ISSUED OVER AND ABOVE THE SAID 100,000 (50,000 each of 2/6 d. and 1/3 d.)* SHALL BE OF THE PAPER OF WHICH SAMPLES ARE NOW PRODUCED," (the only samples that could have been produced at the time were the forms that the Type I and Type II notes of 1773 were issued on - the Virginia James River Bank forms (Type I) and the large size, elaborately engraved forms made by Ashby of London and carrying his engraver's marks (Type II) "WHICH SHALL BE FILLED UP BY MATHEW DAVENPORT OR JOHN CARTER LITTLEPAGE" (which could mean only adding the necessary information to the above note forms, showing that they were authorized by Ordinance of Convention, passed July 17, 1775, and this is exactly what was done this time to the two different forms used first in 1773) "AND SHALL BE ENDORSED OR COUNTERSIGNED BY THE TREASURER FOR THE TIME BEING (This further shows that it was the Virginia James River Bank forms (TypeI) and the large "Ashby -Sculp -London" note forms (Type II). For the former are all countersigned by the Treasurer (Robert Carter Nicholas) and the latter are all endorsed (signature written on back of note) by Treasurer Nicholas.

* Type III notes of July 1775 ordered from Philadelphia. The smallest denomination of the Type I and Type II notes was 20/- (one pound).

These Type I notes of 1773 -1775 are the only eighteenth century Virginia notes signed by Robert Carter Nicholas, Treasurer, and the Type II notes of the same date are the only ones with the Treasurer's signature on the back. "FOR THE TIME BEING" also emphasized the temporary nature of the use of these two note forms that were on hand for this defense emergency. For when the Type III notes of July 1775, those printed especially for this issue with the name of the convention printed on the face of the note, arrived in Williamsburg, like previous issues with forms printed for a specific issue, they did not require the signature of the Treasurer - either as a countersignature or as an endorsement.

As these note forms that were on hand, the Type I and Type II which were first used in 1773 and again in 1775, had the double numbers to facilitate matching their wavy left borders with their stubs in the book, this Ordinance of Convention of July 1775, like the previous Act of Assembly of March 1773 specified certain gentlemen "....TO NUMBER SAID NOTES" and for which they would receive ". . . THE SUM OF 15 SHILLINGS FOR EVERY 1,000 NOTES SO NUMBERED." It is only the Acts of Assembly or Ordinance of Convention that deal with the use of the Virginia James River Bank forms and the larger Ashby Sculp.-London notes that have the double numbers which named certain individuals to number the notes. The Ordinance of Convention further states that if said taxes ". . . SHALL PROVE DEFICIENT THE WHOLE ESTATES, REAL AND PERSONAL, ARE HEREBY PLEDGED AS SECURITY FOR MAKING GOOD SUCH DEFICIENCY." *

*Up to the current financing of the American Revolution with paper money, the Bills of Credit of Virginia had enjoyed a high rating and were accepted on the London Exchange at a higher value than the paper money of any of the other American Colonies. Virginia was the last of the original colonies to resort to the use of paper money and had profitedd by the mistakes of some of her sister colonies and had been quite conservative in her issues and lived up to her promises and no one had lost on her bills of credit except through counterfeiting. However, before the financing of her efforts in the American Revolution were over previous safeguards and conservatism

Notes were to be redeemed on the "FIRST DAY OF JANUARY 1784" this date did not appear on the notes, however, this was the usual practice. Counterfeiting, altering etc., was punishable by ". . . DEATH, WITHOUT BENEFIT OF CLERGY". (See note p.16)

ILLUSTRATION

TYPE III NOTE

JULY 17, 1775.

When the Type III forms finally arrived in Williamsburg, it was a welcomed occasion by Treasurer Nicholas, for as we have seen the use of Type I and Type II note form required many time-consuming pen and ink additions and as so little was paid for this service the Treasurer was having difficulty getting the job done.

These Type III notes were a throw back to the issues before 1773 in general format, and they were not on "watermarked" paper, nor were they bound in books and separated from a matching stub as were the Type I and Type II notes. Though the Type III notes were not up to the standard of the "Ashby" (Type II) notes they were an improvement over the earlier issues of similar type. They depended on improved printing and the use of thick paper in which "colored threads" and "sparkling mica"* were incor-

(continued from preceding page)
thrown to the wind and her paper money like that of the other colonies and that of the Continental Congress all ended up in the same uncontrolled flood of a run-a-way inflation.

* Some authorities on Colonial Paper Money contend that the presence of mica in the paper was due to the use of talc as a paper filler in which mica was an impurity, so that its appearance was accidental rather than deliberate. (9)

parated, as well as the old standby of using the signatures of well-known Virginians as a means of preventing counterfeiting. There were nine different denominations (see chart showing the different denominations for the different types) including six denominations under one pound. In the issues of Type I and Type II notes, the smallest denomination was one pound.

These Type III notes, however, did not arrive in Williamsburg until after the first of the following year. So the brunt of the defense emergency (July 1775 to January1776), like the previous "counterfeit emergency" was borne largely by the Note forms, however inappropriate, which were on hand. It was these "stop-gap" notes (Type I and Type II of 1775) which made the Virginia victory at Great Bridge possible. For it was this paper money that equipped and put in the field the soldiers--all members of the Virginia militia--that won this very first American Victory against the armed might of Great Britain IN OUR WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE.

When the note forms especially printed for this issue, the Type III notes, arrived in Virginia, the British forces under Dunmore, with its armed negroes, were already on the defensive. After their defeat at Great Bridge, which entailed the loss of so many officers, noncommissioned officers, and British regulars, further land offensives were hardly possible without reinforcements from Britain. While the number of loyalists and armed negroes remained fairly large, there were very few new recruits of this classification after the defeat at Great Bridge, and these raw, untrained men were effective soldiers only when backed up and supported by British regulars.

One of America's great contemporary historians, speaking at Williamsburg, May15,1951 said that the American victory at Great Bridge, December

9, 1775, had never been given its proper place in history --"...it was one of the great turning points in the early part of the War for Independence and without this victory the whole course of the war would have been different and to the detriment of the American cause."*

Great Bridge, Virginia, December 9, 1775, Lord Dunmore sent his British regulars followed by a rabble of clerks and refugee slaves, to attack the entrenched Virginia troopers under Col. William Woodford. Woodford's men swept the cause way with fire from their "Long Rifles" (Kentucky rifles, developed and so named when Kentucky was a western county of Virginia) killing a large percentage of the British regulars. Dunmore then retreated to the protection of the British fleet in Norfolk harbor and his attempt to establish himself as a serious threat for the control of eastern Virginia had failed.

This failure was due in part to the backfiring of Dunmore's 18th century version of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. For as the British forces and the Virginia militia faced each other across the narrow extension of the southern branch of the Elizabeth River at Great Bridge, the only land approach to Norfolk, neither side appeared anxious to take the offensive. They were content for the time being, to glare at each other and take an occasional shot. Then, Major Tom Marshall (father of the famous Chief Justice *) finally induced the

* Virginian Pilot-Portsmouth Star, Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va., Sunday, December 9, 1956. p. 5-c.
* John Marshall, later the famous Chief Justice, but then a youth of twenty, was with his father at Great Bridge and it was there that he received his baptism of fire.

British to attack the Virginia Militia's entrenched position by sending a well-coached negro servant, in the role of a "runaway" to tell the British that there were only three hundred "shirtmen"* present but several hundred more troops with artillery were expected from North Carolina the next day, December 9, 1775. The ruse worked, the British decided to attack early the next morning. The result is well known, it was almost unbelievable that Virginia riflemen, with little military training, had defeated a cannon supported force of British veterans.

The importance of this battle can hardly be overemphasized. The victory saved lower Virginia from the destructive former Royal Governor, since so many of his regulars were killed or wounded **, and the loyalists demoralized. Men who had been on the verge of joining the British forces decided not to do so. Virginia was the only one of the thirteen former English colonies in which there was no formidable organized resistance from a loyalist (Tory) group.

An often overlooked fact, New York was the center of a British stronghold, numbers of New Yorkers enrolled under the British flag. New York state alone furnished 15,000 recruits for the British Army, besides 8,000 more loyalist militia. At some important periods, more Americans were under arms against independence that for it. (11)

*The Virginia Militia wore long hunting shirts, at the time, and were referred to as shirtmen, especially by the British.
**The first victory of the "American Long Rifle" over the smooth bore British Brown Bess showed the importance of its selectivity in getting the more important targets, officers and regulars rather than the untrained rabble. Then too, the rifle had a longer range and did not have to be fired in vollys at close range to be effective as did the muskets.

But for this decisive American Victory in Virginia during the opening days of the conflict, Virginia too, would have had the development of a more or less formidable group of loyalist (Tories) among its citizens, as did the other states. Norfolk could have become a British stronghold in the South as New York City was in the North, and if such had come to pass there could have been no "Yorktown". Before Great Bridge "Washington had declared that if Dunmore were not crushed before spring, he would become the most formidable enemy of America, since his strength would increase like that of a rolling snow ball." (22 p. 142)

In the interest of poetic justice, it might be pointed out that it was in part the money that George III would not allow to be used for a private bank in Virginia which was used to equip and put in the field the troops under Col. Woodford, the troops which gave his armed forces in Virginia the very worst pasting any British force received during the early part of the war, and caused what had been the "brightest star in Great Britain's overseas Dominions" to become the "worst thorn in her side.

These notes of Colonial Virginia are thus important official documents that served as milestones on our road to Independence. They are indeed valuable relics of an important and colorful period of our history, for they are an essential part of it. The various types of the two issues discussed were merely the result of a practical solution of pressing problems by practical men.

A P P E N D I X

May 5, 1774 No. 1178

V I R G I N I A G A Z E T T E

"With the Freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestick"

Printed by Alex Purdie and John Dixon*

The following is a "notice" placed in the above mentioned Virginia Gazette for informing the general public by Robert Carter Nicholas, Treasurer of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia.

"TREASURY OFFICE APRIL 26, 1774.

It has been represented to me that doubts are entertained in in several parts of the country of the goodness of some of the last emission, because there are found double numbers of some of the bills, I think it necessary to inform the public that the upper number denotes the number of the book out of which it was taken, and the lower number shows the series of the bill - where the original books with their counter checks are carefully preserved. The paper on which the money was impressed consisted of single slips, each containing two bills. Fifty of these slips were bound in separate books, which were numbered from B 1 to 78 inclusive, so that of the notes in circulation there may be found one hundred whole upper numbers are the same, though the lower numbers are all different.

The manner in which it was proposed to fill up these bills was explained and universally approved at the last session of the Assembly and I did not suppose the smallest doubt could arise in any part of the country.

I have endeavored to trace every report that has been circulated to the prejudice of the new money and can truly declare that I have not the least reason to suspect that any of it has been counterfeited.

I will not presume to say it is impossible to be done, but am hopeful that the great difficulties which must attend it have discouraged even an attempt.

These bills, however, will be very speedily called in, and I am persuaded that all doubts and scruples will be effectually removed.

Ro. Carter Nicholas, Treasurer."

* John Dixon - A signer of some of the Type III notes of 1775.

1755, May L20,000 redeemable before the last day of June next with 5 % interest
1755, August L40,000 redeemable June 30, 1760 with 5% int.

1756, March,	£ 25,000	legal tender, and redeemable June 30, 1760, with five per cent. interest
1756, March,	£ 30,000	legal tender, redeemable June 30, 1760, with five per cent. interest.
1756, March,	£ 10,000	legal tender, and redeemable Dec. 15, 1757.
1757, June,	£179,962.10	legal tender, and redeemable without interest March 1, 1765.
1758, April,	£ 32,000	legal tender, and redeemable without interest March 1, 1765.
1758, September,	£ 57,000	legal tender, and redeemable Sept. 14, 1766.
1759, February,	£ 57,000	legal tender, and redeemable April 20, 1768. 57,000
1759, November,	£ 10,000	legal tender, redeemable Oct. 20, 1769.
1760, March,	£ 20,000	legal tender, and redeemable Oct. 10, 1768.
1760, May,	£ 32,000	legal tender, and reemable Oct. 20, 1769.
1762, March,	£ 30,000	legal tender, and redeemable Oct. 20, 1769.
1769, November,	£ 10,000	payable for public debts, but not a legal tender between individuals, redeemable Nov. 20, 1771.
1771, July,	£ 30,000	payable for public debts, but not a legal tender, redeemable December 10, 1775.
1773, March,	£ 36,834	to pass current in all payments to such persons as may be willing to receive the same, redeemable June 1, 1774.
	£614.796.10	

FOX FAMILY OF KING WILLIAM COUNTY, VA.

Thomas Fox was a member of the Virginia Company of London in 1609, and he was probably ancestor of the family of this name in King William county, Virginia.

The following letter of Stephen Fox, who appears to have died at sea, was proved in London as a will in 1663:

STEPHEN FOX ATT SEA. Latitude 24 degrees, 7br ye 9th 1662. Aboard ye Restauracion. Loveinge Brother. These Certife you we sett sayle from

Sept 22, 1773 letter from Robt Carter Nicholas to editors of Va. Gaz.
Published Sept 30, 1773
William and Mary Quarterly ~~Virginia Historical Mag.~~ Vol 20 (Richmond 1912)
p.261

Journal of House of Burgesses May 24,1763
Report of Committee which examined the state of the Treasury note.

Dr. STATE *of the* TREASURY NOTES *emitted,*

To Notes issued in	*June* 1757	-	-	£. 179962	10
Do.	*April* 1758	-	-	32000	
Do.	*September* 1758	-	-	57000	
Do.	*February* 1759	-	-	52000	
Do.	*November* 1759	-	-	10000	
Do.	*March* 1760	-	-	20000	
Do.	*May* 1760	-	-	32000	
Do.	*March* 1762	-	-	30000	
Balance of the Taxes more than the Notes issued,				11452	4 7
				£. 424414	14 7

Virginia Magazine of Hist and Bio Vol 11 (Richmond 1904)
p.356

And the TAXES *for sinking the same.* *Cr.*

1760 *July*, by notes burnt, redeemable in 1765,	£. 10051	14	3
November, Do. - - Do.	20678	15	9
1761 *May*, Do. - - Do.	9633	14	
December, Do. - - Do.	10792	6	
1762 *July*, Do. - - Do.	6821	10	
November, Do. - - Do.	16421	16	
Do. redeemable 1766,	2593	5	9
Do. - 1768 and 1769,	1634	7	
Do. 1766, 1768 and 1769,	1534	7	6
Do. Do. Do.	147	18	9
Do. Do. Do. Do.	5345	11	6
	85655	6	6
Notes in the Treasury, by last Account, to be burnt,	25574	13	1
Do. received since, to be burnt,	24300		
Notes, Part of the £.57,000 directed to be issued in *September* 1758, not emitted	375		
Do. Part of the £.30,000 directed to be issued in *March* 1762, not emitted,	10250		
	146154	19	7
By a Tax on 120,000 Tithes for 1763, at 4*s*. £.24000			
Do. on 10,000,000 Acres of Land, 2*s*. 10000			
Do. 50,000 Hhds. of Tobacco, 2*s*. 5000			
Do. Slaves, 2000			
Do. Wheel-Carriages, Writs and Licenses, 2000			
43000			
Collector's Commission, at 5 *per Cent.* 2150			
40850			
Treasurer's Commission, 931			
Taxes for 1764, the same, - -	39919		
Do. for 1765, Do. - .	39919		
By Tax on 120,000 Tithes for 1766, at 5*s*. 30,000	39919		
Land Tax, 10,000			
Tobacco, 5,000			
45,000			
Collector's Commission, at 5 *per Cent.* 2250			
42750			
Treasurer's Commission, at 2 *per Cent.* 855			
Taxes for 1767,	41895		
Do. for 1768,	41895		
By Tax on 120,000 Tithes for 1769, at 4*s*. 24,000	41895		
Land Tax, 6250			
Tax on Tobacco, 5000			
35,250			
Collector's Commission, 1762-10			
33487-10			
Treasurer's Commission, 669-15			
	32817	15	
	£. 424414-14-7		

shows that even private Families cannot live free of considerable Expenses seem to suppose that the Business of this great Country and every Contingency may be supported almost without them; but, for my Part, I shall never grudge a moderate publick Expense to secure either a great publick Good or to relieve the Community from a great publick Calamity. If anyone doubts my Disposition to Political Economy, or my Endeavours to save every Thing to the Country, that is in my Power, I shall only say that I have been peculiarly unfortuate, in not being able to convince him of both, and, perhaps, I may not live to see better Opportunities of doing it, than have already offered. That the new Money may be liable to Abuse, I will not deny; but, that it is much more secure against Counterfeits and Forgeries, than any we have ever had, is submitted to the Judgments of all, who have examined it. This was the Opinion of the Assembly, even of those Members I conversed with, who were against the Emission. The Means of discovering the good from the forged Bills of the other Emissions having been made publick, would have rendered them, after a Time, the more dangerous. The Forgers were possessed of exact Copies of the original Arms, Types and all the other Devices; the chief Errours of the Counterfeits consisted in the Difference of Paper and the Water Letters; if these had been corrected, it might have puzled the most knowing to detect the new Forgeries; tho' we would have been sure that no new Counterfeits would have been attempted, yet how many People in the Country are unable to understand these discriminating Marks, which are now become familiar to Persons of Discernment? Can any unprejudiced Person, after a Moment's Reflection, say it is within any Degree of Comparison, near so easy to forge an entire Set of new Bills, impressed on Paper of a new Fabrick, guarded in the Manner these are, as it is to correct the Errours in the Forgeries of the former Notes?

"No good Reason, it seems, has yet, been furnished for empowering the Emission of so large a Sum as 36,834 l." Considering the Sums, that the Taxes had brought in, as the Treasurer informed the Publick, Is it not surprisingly strange that the

Letter of Robert Carter Nicholas to the editors of the Virginia Gazette. Letter Sept.22,1773 Published Sept 30,1773.
William and Mary Quarterly Historical Magazine Vol 20 (Richmond 1912) p.259

Letter dated London Feb 15,1764 from Jerman Baker
to Duncan Rose in Virginia
William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine
Vol 12 (1st Series) Ricmond 1904 p.240

scended to dispute with the former I can only atone by saying I ám sorry my objection to this currency did not arise from any circumstances but the laying over a Load of Debt on posterity who, in case of any future war or a continuance of that we were engag'd in, might be oblig'd to follow the same method of raising money, & so the evil would have become perpetual. Now the war is at an end and the charges of Government reduc'd to a triffle, I am easy, as I think I see an end to its circulation in 1769, according to the tenor of an express Act of Assembly. The proposition your people in Glasgow make for securing the Credit of the paper by giving 5 ℔C^t interest, I must beg leave to call wild & inconvenient, for it would only serve to postpone the expiration of a paper circulation by so much as the Interest would encrease the publick Debt, and besides you & many of your Neighbors who were in Virginia in 1757 were witnesses of the disadvantage of the moneys bearing interest, for until that time all the money then in circulation bore an interest of 5 ℔C, but on a hint from Lord Loudoun, the then Governor in Chief of Virginia, the Assembly enacted that the moneys bearing Interest should be called in and redeemed with other bearing no interest, the consequence was, that every man as paper came into his possession, detain'd it for the sake of the Interest due upon it, so that there was almost a total stagnation of payments, as the best people in the Country were not ashamed to put off the paying their Debts at that time, some of the money having then near 2 years interest due on it at that time, and had it been suffer'd to run on, it would have had about 4 years to run upon an average from the time of the several emissions to the period apointed for sinking it, and this wou'd again be the case were they to grant interest on it. For a proof, only step aside to Maryland, where they emitted a paper currency, and stipulated that it should bear interest until the time it was called in, and further that it shou'd be redeem'd at a medium of 33 and a third Exchange, for which purpose there is a fund established in England, this exchange being far below the trading course. The consequence is that all this money is locked up in the Chests of the Wealthy, and the trade is supported by notes issued by private people, and the little gold & Silver that may find its way among them, and both together are insufficient, as every man who is acquainted with the Trade

Va.Mag of Hist & Bio Vol 6 p.129 Richmond 1899
Letter dated Aug.1,1771 from Richard Bland in Virginia
to Thomas Adams in England

£10,000, upon the best Securities, altho' they offered an Interest of 6 per Cent, and, would have given 8 per Cent, rather than have been concerned with Paper money; When, under these Circumstances, we were *Forced* against our Inclinations to emit Treasury notes, or refuse to comply with the Royal Demands; the merchants raised such a Clamour, and represented the House of Burgesses, by their memorials to the Board of Trade & Plantations, in such dark and disadvantagious colours; that they drew very severe, and, as time has demonstrated, very unjust Censures from that Board, upon the Conduct of the Assembly: and they did not desist till they procured an act of Parliament restraining the Governor from giving his assent to any act of our Legislature, for making Paper Bills of Credit a legal Tender. But now, when their *private* Interest is affected; when they are in danger of Bankrupcy, and their Credit is likely to be Injured, they are become the warmest and most Forward Solicitors with the Assembly for that very Species of money, they abused the Assembly for emitting to defend the Colony from a Common Enemy. Such is, and such for ever will be the conduct of men who prefer their own Interest to the Public Good.

And now I am upon the Subject of Paper money, I will take the Liberty to inform you that of £750,000 issued in Treasury notes in the Course of the last War, only £103,000 is in circulation upon the Supposition that none of the money issued has been lost: but it is certain a large Sum has been destroyed by different Casualties; so that, by the best computation not more than £60,000 is in actual circulation; and the merchants are become so very Fond of it, that, tho' the Time of its redemption has long since expired, they exert every endeavour to prevent its being paid into the Treasury, from whence, they know, it will never more make its appearance, but must be burnt by a standing Committee appointed for that purpose. It really affords diversion to those who remember their Former opposition, to see their anxiety to keep this money in circulation, against the repeated advertizements of the Treasury, in our public Papers, calling upon the Holders of it to carry it in, and exchange it for Gold and Silver; which not one of them can be prevailed upon to comply with.

Our Export of Tobacco will be at least 6,000 hhds short of

the present Conjuncture, & we don't doubt but you will endeavour to avail yourself of it.

We were extremely well pleased with the Resolutions of the Lords of Trade not to interfere with our Paper Currency now in Circulation & we find what you communicated to us as the Outlines of a Scheme, which their Lordships had in Contemplation, has been since digested & carried into an Act of Parliament.

We, as has been repeatedly observed, were never Fond of a Paper Currency, & our only Solicitude proceeded from an Apprehension, that the over bearing Dispositions of the Merchants might have had weight enough to effect their Purpose, which would inevitably have involved the Country in the greatest Difficulties & Distresses.

Your endeavours with the Board of Trade, after meetieg with so many considerable Rubs in the Salt Scheme, to procure not only a Revival of the Law allowing a Bounty upon Hemp but an additional Bounty also, we look upon as a fresh Instance of your unwearied & uninterrupted Attention to the Interest of this Colony, & that, our Agent is, so far from being discouraged by a Miscarriage in one Point, that he seems to redouble his Diligence & becomes the more inquisitive after new Objects, upon which he may exercise it with Advantage to his Constituents; we find that an Act of Parliament has since taken Place according to your Plan, & we are not without Hopes that it will have a very good Influence upon many of the Inhabitants of this Colony by exciting them more generally to the Cultivation of a Commodity which in all Probability may redound greatly to their Interest.

We must now beg Leave to lead your Attention to another Subject, very interesting in its Nature to this Colony. By having Recourse to the first Letter, which this Committee did themselves the Pleasure of writing to you, upon your being appointed our Agent, dated the 12th of December, 1759, you will find that the Country, at that Time, was unhappily engaged in a Dispute with some of the Gentlemen of the Clergy upon the Subject of an Act of our Assembly for paying Tobacco Debts & Officers fees in Money in a very scarce Year. The Reverend Mr. John Camm, as Rector of York Hampton Parish, had commenced a Suit in our Gen' Court ag't the Collectors of his Parish Levy,

Letter of the Committee of Correspondence to the Agent
Williamsburg 28 July 1764.
Va. Mag. of Hist. and Bio. (Richmond, 1905) Vol. 12, p. 11

Virginia Committee of Correspondence - Meeting June 15, 1764 at Williamsburg
Va. Mag. of Hist. and Biography Vol 12 (Richmond 1905) p. 6

necessary to urge him to procure our Proportion of that Grant as soon as possible.

That the Com^e are sorry to find the Petition to Parliament for Leave to import Salt into this Colony from Europe proved ineffectual, & the rather as he has hinted, our Application may prove prejudicial to Neighbour^s Colonies. The Com. acquiesce with the Opinion of the several Agents on this subject & suppose it will be to no purpose to solicit the petition without the Approbation of the Board of Trade.

That the Colony is much alarmed at the Attempt in parliament* to lay a Duty on the sev^l Commodities ment^d in their Votes, a Copy of wch he sent to ye Com., particularly on Madeira Wine & the proposal for a Stamp Duty.

That he be desired to oppose this with all his Influence, & as far as he may venture insist on the Injustice of laying any Duties on us & particularly taxing the internal Trade of the Colony without their Consent.

That the Com. are extreemly pleased with the Resolutions of the Lords of Trade not to interfere with the Paper Money now circulat^s & are in hopes that any future Directions with Respect to a paper Currency will not affect this Colony, as we have no Expectations of any further Emissions.

That he be advised of the Appeal granted to Mr. Camm † in his Suit ag^t the Collectors of Y. Hampton parish, which was last Court determined ag^t him, & that he be desired to employ proper Counsel to support the Jud^t of the Court. That it is tho't some of the original Charters granted to this Colony in its Infancy have been lost or destroy'd by fire & that he be desired to search the proper Offices for any papers that may be of use on this Occasion & take Copies at the Expence of the Colony. That a Copy of the Record on this Appeal be sent to him & he

* This "attempt" was the adoption by Parliament in March, 1764, of resolutions declaratory of an intention to impose a stamp duty in America and avowing the right and expediency of taxing the colonies. See this magazine, XI, 353, &c., 364, &c.

† This was an appeal by Rev. John Camm, minister of York Hampton parish, from an adverse decision of the General Court of Virginia, in a suit under the "Two-penny Act." See this magazine, X, 347-356.

Colonial Williamsburg Long Lives Vantage

The printing office played a major role in the history of Williamsburg, Virginia, and the American colonies at large. On August 6, 1736, the first edition of the "Virginia Gazette" came off the presses at William Parks' printing office on Duke of Gloucester street in the heart of Williamsburg. The files of this weekly, the earliest newspaper in the Virginia colony, offer present-day readers a colorful account of life in colonial America.

It should be of interest to note that some 30 years ago a modern day version of the "Virginia Gazette" commenced publication as a weekly. Old-style type faces used by William Parks over two centuries ago are still employed. — Thus, a current newspaper is being brought out in old but lively dress.

The reconstructed printing house was built on the site of the original. During excavation at this site several hundred pieces of type, probably of Dutch origin, were unearthed, along with bookbinder's ornaments and crucibles which Parks may have used to melt lead; a lead plate; and lead border ornaments which were used in the printing of paper money.

Exhibits relating to paper money printed in old Williamsburg can be found at the printing office, courthouse and the information center. Most of the plates extant relate to bank notes manufactured by Parks' successor, William Hunter, in the 1750's. Denominations as shown by the metal and wood engraving blocks, as well as by specimens of the notes, are generally one shilling, 12 crowns and 20 crowns.

The currency was made up of a combination of type faces which were used along with the elaborately engraved plates. Currency printed at Williamsburg probably circulated throughout Virginia and the notes were distinct in design from contemporary British notes. The noted numismatist, F. C. C. Boyd, assisted in preparing the currency displays at Williamsburg.

Many varieties of these early bank notes have undoubtedly been lost, but through the Williamsburg exhibits we clearly see that paper money did serve as an important medium of exchange in

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64-2545
Journal of the House of Burgesses of Virginia,
1770-1772.

appointed to examine and ſtate Accounts of the Loſſes ſuſtained by Means of the late Freſh; and that they do examine the Matter thereof, and report the ſame, with their Opinion thereupon, to the Houſe.

10 *Ordered*, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a Table of the Fees to be paid to the Clerk of this Houſe, for Copies of private Acts, and of other Papers; and report the ſame to the Houſe.

And a *Committee* was appointed of Mr *Edmund Pendleton*, Mr *Bland*, Mr *Treaſurer*, Mr *Henry*, and Mr *Baniſter*.

And then the Houſe adjourned till To-morrow Morning nine of the Clock.

Tuesday, the 16th of July, 11 Geo. III. 1771.

ORDERED, That the ſeveral Petitions of ſundry Freeholders of the County of *Henrico*, and others, for diſcontinuing the Inſpections of Tobacco at *Shockoe's* and *Byrd's*, in the ſaid County, and for eſtabliſhing in their Room, Inſpections on the Land of *Charles Lewis*, and alſo the ſeveral Petitions of ſundry Inhabitants of the Counties of *Amherſt*, *Buckingham*, *Goochland*, and *Henrico*, in Oppoſition thereto, which, upon *Saturday* laſt, were ordered to lie upon the Table, be referred to the Conſideration of the Committee appointed to examine and ſtate Accounts of the Loſſes ſuſtained by Means of the late Freſh; and that they do examine the Matter thereof, and report the ſame, with their Opinion thereupon, to the Houſe.

A *Memorial* of *Luke Luker* and *John Walter* was preſented to the Houſe, and read; ſetting forth, that the Warehouſes eſtabliſhed at *Naſſwaddox*, in the County of *Northampton*, at which they Act as Inſpectors, were lately burnt by Accident, and forty-two Hogſheads of inſpected Tobacco, weighing forty-two thouſand five hundred and ninety-four Pounds nett, conſumed therein; and therefore referring it to the Conſideration of the Houſe, to provide for repairing the Loſs of the Sufferers, in ſuch Manner as to them ſhall ſeem juſt.

Ordered, That the ſaid Memorial be referred to the Conſideration of the Committee appointed to examine and ſtate Accounts of the Loſſes ſuſtained by Means of the late Freſh; and that they do examine the Matter thereof, and report the ſame, with their Opinion thereupon, to the Houſe.

A *Member* returned upon a new Writ, having taken the Oaths appointed to be taken by Act of Parliament, and repeated and ſubſcribed the Teſt, took his Place in the Houſe.

Mr *Bland* reported from the Committee, appointed to examine and ſtate Accounts of the Loſſes ſuſtained by Means of the late Freſh, as well in the Tobacco inſpected, as in ſuch as was brought to be inſpected, but not viewed, at the ſeveral Public Warehouſes, except ſuch Tobacco as had remained in the ſaid Warehouſes above a Year, that the Committee had examined and ſtated Accounts of the Loſſes accordingly, and had directed him to report the ſame, as it appeared to them, to the Houſe; and he read the Report in his Place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's Table; where the ſame was read, and is as followeth, *viz.*

Your *Committee* beg Leave to inform the Houſe, that upon examining the Accounts of all the Inſpectors of the ſeveral Warehouſes at *Shockoe's*, *Byrd's*, *Rocky Ridge*, and *Warwick*, they find the total Loſs of the Tobacco, at the ſaid Warehouſes, to amount to 2,375,541 Pounds of Tobacco; and that the Expences attending the examining, ſorting, and reprizing the ſaid Tobacco amount to 244*l.* 8 *s.* 6 *d.* a particular Account of which is ſtated in a Schedule annexed to this Report.

Your *Committee* beg Leave further to inform the Houſe, that at the Time of the Freſh 107 Hogſheads of uninſpected Tobacco were lying at *Byrd's* Warehouſe, which
11 the Inſpectors have ſince viewed, 87 Hogſheads of which were paſſed, and carried to the Credit of the Proprietors, after cutting off 9266 Pounds damaged, which ought to be allowed to the ſeveral Proprietors; the other 20 Hogſheads were refuſed, and put by to be picked.

That

That 131 Hogſheads of uninſpected Tobacco, ſuppoſed to be carried away from *Shockoe's*, have been found, and perſons have been employed by the Inſpectors to pick and reprize them, but no Account is yet returned of the Quantity ſaved.

It further *appears* to your Committee, that the Inſpectors at *Shockoe's*, *Byrd's* and the *Rocky Ridge*, not having proper Houſes to hold the Tobacco, and not being able to hire Hands ſufficient to examine all the damaged Tobacco under their own immediate View, did, by the Advice of ſeveral Gentlemen of the Houſe of Burgeſſes, contract with ſundry Perſons to take ſeveral Hogſheads of damaged Tobacco to their Houſes, to be ſorted and reprized, and to allow them one third or one half of the Tobacco (as it was more or leſs damaged) that ſhould be ſaved; under which Agreement ſeveral Hogſheads were by the Inſpectors delivered out, of which none have yet been accounted for, except 8 Hogſheads returned to *Rocky Ridge;* ſo that the Savings upon this Tobacco cannot, at this Time, be aſcertained, but it appears that it will probably amount, in the Whole, to about 400 Hogſheads, after paying the Salvage agreed for, including the Tobacco the Inſpectors have ſaved themſelves, of which they cannot, at this Time, render a particular Account.

It further *appears* that at *Shockoe's* were 79 Hogſheads, and at *Byrd's* 24 Hogſheads of Tobacco refuſed, and put by to be picked, and which were damaged.

Your *Committee* are informed that a conſiderable Number of Hogſheads of Tobacco have been taken up by ſeveral Perſons, living upon *James* River, below the ſaid Warehouſes, great Part of which have been ſaved. And your Committee beg Leave to give it as their Opinion, that the Tobacco ſo ſaved ſhould be inquired into, and if it ſhould appear it was carried from any of the Public Warehouſes, that it ought to be accounted for to the Public, after allowing a reaſonable Salvage.

It further *appears* that about 800 Hogſheads of Tobacco were loſt in *Dixon's* and *Falmouth* Warehouſes, on *Rappahannock* River, but as the Inſpectors are not attending, and their Accounts are not upon Oath, the Committee have ſent for them, and cannot adjuſt that Loſs until they ſhall attend.

Dr. The Public for Tobacco deſtroyed by the late Freſh at the ſeveral Warehouſes upon *James* River.

		Cr.	
To *Shockoe's* Inſpectors,.....	1,480,028	By old Tobacco at *Shockoe's* inſpected above a Year,....	17,614
To Col. *William Cabell*,.....	1,768	Balance to be paid for at *Shockoe's*.....	1,467,338
To Mr *John Woodſon*,.....	1,307		
To Col. *Wilſon Miles Cary*,.....	1,849		
	1,484,952		1,484,952
To Mr *Field Trent* for eight Hogſheads of Tobacco, the Weights not aſcertained.....		By eight Hogſheads of old Tobacco at *Byrd's* inſpected above a Year,.....	8,436
To *Byrd's* Inſpectors on Crop Tobacco,.....	766,145	Balance to be paid for at *Byrd's* ..	773,336
To ditto on Tranſfer Tobacco ...	15,627		781,772
To *Warwick* Inſpectors, to be paid for, ...	781,772	By Tobacco ſaved at *Rocky Ridge*, ...	235,720
	41,165	By ditto,.....	4,058
To *Rocky Ridge*	341,450	By old Tobacco inſpected above a Year, ...	7,970
Caſh Account Dr.		Balance to be paid for,.....	93,702
	341,450		341,450

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
To *Shockoe's* Inſpectors,.....	49	10	6
To Col. *William Cabell*, ...	2	12	6
To Mr *John Woodſon*,.....		15	
To *Byrd's* Inſpectors.....	33	15	6
To *Rocky Ridge* Inſpectors	157	15	
	244	8	6

Ordered

Ordered, That the ſaid Report do lie upon the Table.

Reſolved, That this Houſe will now reſolve itſelf into a Committee of the whole Houſe to conſider of Ways and Means for raiſing Money to repair the Loſſes of Tobacco ſuſtained by Means of the late Freſh.

Ordered, That the ſaid Report be referred to the ſaid Committee.

The Houſe accordingly reſolved itſelf into the ſaid Committee.

Mr *Speaker* left the Chair.

Mr *Bland* took the Chair of the Committee.

Mr *Speaker* reſumed the Chair.

Mr *Bland* reported, from the Committee, that they had come to ſeveral Reſolutions, which they had directed him to report to the Houſe, and he read the Report in his Place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's Table; where the Reſolutions of the Committee were read, and are as followeth, *viz.*

Reſolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee, that for repairing the Loſſes of
12 Tobacco ſuſtained by Means of the late Freſh, a Sum of Paper Money, ſufficient for the Purpoſe, be emitted.

Reſolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee, that for ſinking the Paper Money, to be emitted for repairing the Loſſes of Tobacco ſuſtained by Means of the late Freſh, Taxes be impoſed upon Tobacco exported, and upon Wheel Carriages, Ordinary Licences, and Writs.

The ſaid *Reſolutions* being ſeverally read a ſecond Time, were, upon the Queſtion ſeverally put thereupon, agreed to by the Houſe.

Ordered, That a Bill be brought in, purſuant to the ſaid Reſolutions; and that Mr *Bland*, Mr *Treaſurer*, Mr *Edmund Pendleton*, Mr *Richard Henry Lee*, Mr *Harriſon*, and Mr *Riddick*, do prepare and bring in the ſame.

And then the Houſe adjourned till To-morrow Morning Nine of the Clock.

Wednesday, the 17th of July, 11 Geo. III. 1771.

A *Petition* of the Inſpectors at *Shockoe's*, *Byrd's*, and *Rocky Ridge* Warehouſes, was preſented to the Houſe, and read; ſetting forth that the Petitioners had undergone great Labour, in looking after and ſecuring the Tobacco damaged by Means of the Freſh, in the Month of *May* laſt, and tranſcribing their Books, and preparing fair Copies of their Accounts, to be laid before this Honourable Houſe, and had been put to conſiderable Expence in attending at *Williamſburg* ever ſince the meeting of this General Aſſembly; and therefore praying that they may be allowed a reaſonable Satiſfaction.

Ordered, That the ſaid Petition be referred to the Conſideration of the Committee appointed to examine and ſtate Accounts of the Loſſes ſuſtained by Means of the late Freſh; and that they do examine the Matter thereof, and report the ſame, with their Opinion thereupon, to the Houſe.

Mr *Bland* reported, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Robert Donald* was referred, that the Committee had conſidered the ſame, and had come to ſeveral Reſolutions, which they had directed him to report to the Houſe, and he read the Report in his Place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's Table, where the Reſolutions of the Committee were read, and are as followeth, *viz.*

Reſolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee, that ſo much of the ſaid Petition, as prays to be allowed by the Public, for the Loſs the Petitioner ſuſtained upon the Tobacco inſpected at *Warwick* Warehouſe, and damaged by the late Flood, be rejected.

Reſolved, That it is the Opinion of this Committee, that the Reſidue of the ſaid Petition, praying to be allowed by the Public for the Loſs ſuſtained upon the Tobacco inſpected at *Milner's* Warehouſe, and relanded at *Warwick* Warehouſe, be rejected.

The ſaid *Reſolutions* being ſeverally read a ſecond Time, were, upon the Queſtion ſeverally put thereupon, agreed to by the Houſe.